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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): MICRO-  
COATING TECHNOLOGIES, INC. [US/US]; 5315  
Peachtree Industrial Blvd., Atlanta, GA 30341 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): SMITH, Paul, L.  
[US/US]; 11850 Stradford Wood Rd., Roswell, GA 30076  
(US) FAGUY, Peter [—/US]; 2983 Waterview Drive,

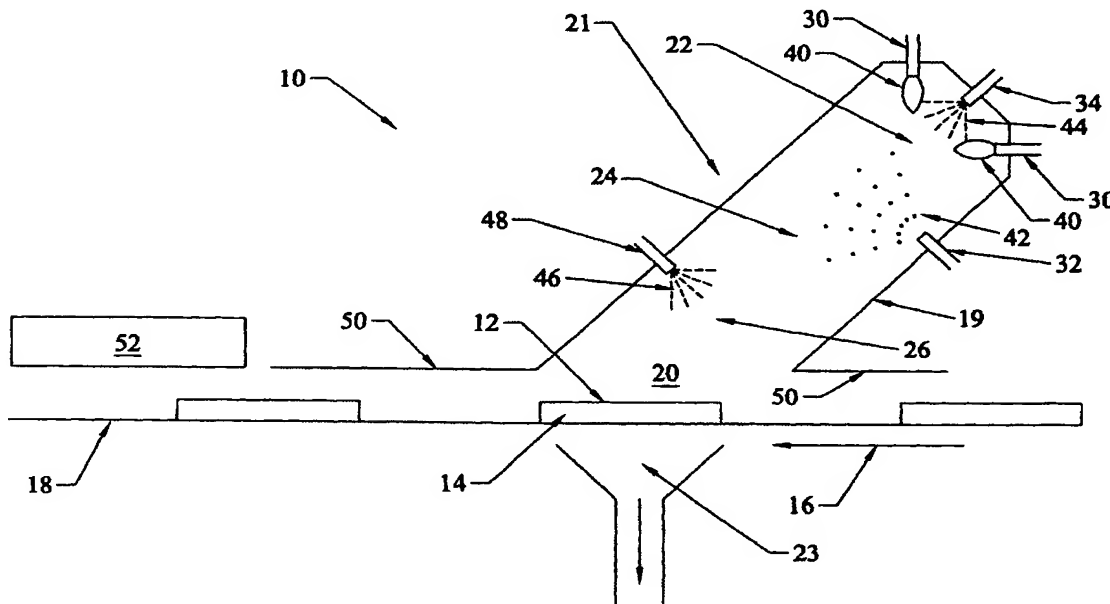
Rochester Hills, MI 48309 (US); HUNT, Andrew, T.  
[US/US]; 495 Mountain Way, Atlanta, GA 30342-3801  
(US); WILLIAN, Charles McKendrie, V. [US/US];  
5224 Cornth Drive, Stone Mountain, GA 30087 (US).  
DALZEL, William J., Jr. [US/US]; 1965 Turtle  
Creek Way, Lawrenceville, GA 30043 (US). WITBROD,  
Frank, C. [US/US]; 2850 Brookfield Circle, Cumming,  
GA 30040 (US). LEE, Stein, s. [US/US]; 199 14th  
Street; Suite #711, Atlanta, GA 30309 (US). SHARM,  
William [US/US]; 3130 Granada Way, Gainesville, GA  
30506 (US). SMALLEY, Jeanne Yadyne [US/US]; 6925  
Cumberland Circle, Riverdale, GA 30296 (US). BATICH,  
Mark [US/US]; 3271 Fawn Trail, Marietta, GA 30066  
(US). HOOS, William [US/US]; 351 West 10th Street,  
Atlanta, GA 30318 (US).

(74) Agent: MURATORI, Alfred, H.; MicroCoating Tech-  
nologies Inc., 5315 Peachtree Industrial Blvd., Atlanta, GA  
30341 (US).

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(54) Title: FUEL CELL MEMBRANES AND CATALYTIC LAYERS



(57) Abstract: To form an ionomer-based catalytic layer on a porous substrate, a heat source (40) is used to dry an ionomer-containing spray (46) so that it does not substantially liquid flow on the substrate (14). The ionomer spray (46) may contain a catalyst. A spray (46) of mixed material for forming the catalytic layer is entrained by a gas stream and is heated and directed to a substrate surface (12). For hydrogen/oxygen fuel cells, catalytic material is incorporated into the proton-conducting membrane (56) to convert diffusing oxygen and hydrogen to water to reduce potential loss at the electrodes and maintain hydration of the proton-conducting membrane (56).



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